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116CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)REPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from Saalfeld~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED DATE OF CONTENT 12 to 20 October 1950DATE OBTAINED 25X1A DATE PREPARED 14 November 1950REFERENCES 25X1APAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 10 and 12 October 1950 the tank unit from Saalfeld (M 51/J 53) returned to its post, reinforced by recruits. While only one tank unit had been stationed in Saalfeld prior to the summer training period, two tank battalions were quartered in the tank troops' buildings of the Saalfeld barracks installation at the time of observation. Railroadmen said that a total of 60 tanks and about 20 SP guns had been unloaded from trains. The infantry unit from Saalfeld had not returned by 19 October 1950. *

2. A civilian stated that the troops in Saalfeld were to number about 4,000, half of them infantry and half of them tank troops. He stated furthermore that the supply orders indicated a 30-percent increase in personnel of the units stationed in the Rudolstadt area. **

3. Six canvas-covered tanks, seen in front of the garage of the Saalfeld barracks installation on 12 October 1950, were no longer there two days later. It was said that Colonel Pauluc (fnu) was still in command of the troops in the billeting area. ***

4. 25X1

- * Comment. According to previous information, about one battalion of the 120th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt and about one battalion of the 15th (Gds ?) Tank SP Regt, both of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, were believed to be stationed in the Prinz Louis Ferdinand Kaserne, Saalfeld. 25X1A
- These units went to the Jandruf troop training grounds in mid-May 1950. The present report indicates that tank components of the 15th (Gds ?) Tank SP Regt returned to the post prior to 19 October 1950. The number of tanks and SP guns observed indicates that the entire regiment had returned.

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** [REDACTED] Comment. Even if allowance is made for an increase in unit strengths caused by the arrival of recruits, the number of troops in Saalfeld and the percentage increase of unit strengths are believed to have been too high.

25X1A

*** [REDACTED] Comment. On 1 June Colonel Pauluc (fnu) was identified by the same source as commanding officer of the tank battalion from Saalfeld, which was at the Ohrdruf troop training grounds at that time. He is believed to be the commanding officer of the 15th (Gds ?) Tank GP Regt.

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